

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

SP-02 SAJ-01 L-01 PM-03 EB-03 PRS-01 OC-01 CCO-00

ACDA-10 SSO-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 /055 W

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O P 211636Z APR 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8451

INFO SECDEF PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USDELMC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

S E C R E T ATHENS 3075

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GR, US

SUBJECT: US-GREEK NEGOTIATIONS: SECOND MEETING OF SUBGROUP ON
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

REFS: A. ATHENS 2985 B. ATHENS 3027 C. STATE 089784

1. US REP LEDSKY BEGAN BY OUTLINING HOW THE INFORMATION GREEKS HAD REQUESTED WAS ASSEMBLED, AND NOTING THAT US PROPOSALS WERE TO BE CONSIDERED PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL IN NATURE, AIMED AT ESTABLISHING DETAILED GREEK-US DIALOGUE. US SIDE THAN TABLED NEA MAKRI PAPER (STATE 089784). AFTER BRIEF STUDY GREEK REPS INDICATED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH PROPOSAL CONCERNING TRAINING, BUT ASKED THAT IT BE EXPANDED SO GREEKS MIGHT OBTAIN TRAINING IN NATO STANDARD SECURE VOICE (CRYPTO) AND TAPE/TARE EQUIPMENT, BOTH OF WHICH THEY EXPECTED TO ACQUIRE IN THE NEXT 1-2 YEARS. GREEKS SAID THEY
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WISHED TRAIN 5-10 BASICALLY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS AT A TIME

IN TWO OR THREE CYCLES PER YEAR OF APPROXIMATELY 45 DAYS DURATION, DEPENDING UPON HELLENIC NAVY PERSONNEL AVAILABILITIES. GREEK SIDE REEMPHASIZED THAT SUCH TRAINING WOULD BE OF AN ON-THE-JOB NATURE AND NOT INTERFERE WITH NORMAL US OPERATIONS. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS TRAINING WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN A TECHNICAL AGREEMENT UNDER THE PROJECTED UMBRELLA AGREEMENT, BUT GREEKS WERE UNABLE TO GO INTO GREATER DETAIL AS TO FORMAT SAYING THIS WAS MATTER FOR POLITICAL DECISION AT PLENARY LEVEL. THE US SIDE SUGGESTED THAT IF GREEKS COULD TABLE A PAPER LISTING THEIR REQUIREMENTS IT WOULD BE EASIER TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY AUTHORIZATIONS. THE GREEK TEAM SAID THIS WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DO.

2. GREEK SIDE WAS GENERALLY UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT US PROPOSAL FOR JOINT USAGE, POINTING OUT THAT US SCHEME WOULD BE OF LITTLE VALUE TO GREEK NAVY. GREEKS THEN MADE TWO SPECIFIC COUNTER PROPOSALS:

A. KEYING OF 2-3 USNHF TRANSMITTERS FROM HELLENIC NAVY COMMUNICATIONS STATION SOURCE 20 KM. AWAY FROM NEA MAKRI TO TERMINATE WITH UNSPECIFIED HELLENIC NAVY ACTIVITIES, AND SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS TO DEDICATE 1 OR 2 TRANSMITTERS FOR SHIP-TO-SHORE COMMUNICATIONS. HELLENIC NAVY PERSONNEL WOULD TUNE TRANSMITTERS, ETC. AT USN TRANSMITTER SITE. GREEK SIDE NOTED THAT THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD SOLVE MUTUAL COMSEC PROBLEMS FOR BOTH SIDES.

3. NOTING THAT ONLY TWO HF TRANSMITTERS WERE INSTALLED AT NAVCOMSTA, GREEK SIDE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS PRECLUDED DEDICATED USE OF THIS EQUIPMENT BY HELLENIC NAVY. THEY THEN PROPOSED THAT A TIME SHARING ARRANGEMENT BE WORKED OUT BY GREEK AND US NAVCOMMSTA COMMANDERS TO ALLOCATE TIME, POSSIBLE 6-8 HOURS PER DAY IN 45-60 MINUTE INCREMENTS, FOR TRANSMISSIONS OF HELLENIC NAVY SUBMARINE BROADCASTS KEYED FROM HELLENIC NAVCOMMSTA IN SIMILAR MANNER AS UNDER FIRST COUNTER PROPOSAL. FURTHER, IF THIS WERE NOT POSSIBLE ON A REGULAR BASIS, PERHAPS IT COULD BE ARRANGED FOR CERTAIN SITUATIONS SUCH AS SIGNIFICANT EXERCISES AND PERIODS OF TENSION. GREEK SIDE SAID THEIR COUNTER PROPOSALS WERE MORE REALISTIC THAN US JOINT USAGE PROPOSALS.

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4. THE US CHAIRMAN SAID THIS PROPOSAL WOULD BE STUDIED, BUT WOULD REQUIRE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN DOD. THE GREEKS REFECTED THE US IDEA THAT THEY TABLE A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL, AND REITERATED THEIR DESIRE TO PROCEED ON AN INFORMAL BASIS. HOWEVER, THEY CONCEDED THAT, SUBSEQUENT TO FURTHER STUDY, A MORE DETAILED CONCEPT MIGHT BE PROVIDED. GREEKS TERMED PROPOSALS ON HELLENIZATION IN US PAPER AS BEING OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THEIR AUTHORITY, AND ASKED THAT THEY BE

DISCUSSED AT POLITICAL LEVEL IN CONNECTION WITH ALL US FACILITIES IN GREECE.

5. AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF NEA MAKRI PAPER, US TEAM DECIDED NOT TO PRESENT PAPERS TO DCS AND IRAKLION UNTIL AFTER

PLENARY SESSION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 22. WHEN GREEKS WERE ASKED FOR SPECIFIC IDEAS ON DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, THEY INDICATED THAT IN THE TRAINING AREA THEY WERE THINKING IN TERMS OF A MAXIMUM OF FIVE PERSONNEL AT ONE TIME TO UNDERGO SHORT PERIODS OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AT A TERMINAL AND AT A RELAY STATION, SUCH TRAINING TO EMPHASIZE OPERATIONAL RATHER THAN MAINTENANCE ASPECTS. GREEK SIDE INDICATED THAT NO PROPOSALS ON IRAKLION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING UNTIL US PAPER RECEIVED.

6. SESSION ADJOURNED WITH AGREEMENT TO RECONVENE ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23.

7. COMMENT: GREEKS REGISTERED TWO IMPORTANT POINTS AT MEETING: (A) AGREEMENTS ON NEA MAKRI WOULD HAVE TO BE PART OF TECHNICAL AGREEMENT UNDER A (NEW) UMBRELLA AGREEMENT, AND (B) SPECIFICS FOR NEA MAKRI COULD NOT BE WORKED OUT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS BUT WOULD HAVE TO BE DEFERRED TO A THIRD ROUND. US SIDE EMPHASIZED DESIRE TO BE FORTHCOMING, AND NECESSITY OF STAFFING PROPOSALS IN WASHINGTON BEFORE SUBSTANTIVE REPLIES COULD BE MADE. THUS, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO HAVE SPECIFICS OF GREEK COUNTERPROPOSALS BEFORE END OF SECOND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY BASES, STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ATHENS03075
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750139-0710
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750430/aaaabbre.tel
Line Count: 156
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 ATHENS 2985, 75 ATHENS 3027, 75 STATE 089784
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-GREEK NEGOTIATIONS: SECOND MEETING OF SUBGROUP ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TAGS: MARR, GR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006